

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

and of John R. Rice

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

An Independent Religious Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Sin, Modernism, and Denominational Overlordship

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Office: 207 So. Beckley St., Phone 6-6888

WILD OATS

BY ELLA WHEELER WILCOX

"Be not deceived: God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."—Galatians 6:7

I said I would have my fling, and do what a young man may; And I didn't believe a thing that the parsons had to say; I didn't believe in a God Who gave us blood like fire, Then flings us into a hell because we answer the call of desire.

And I said, "Religion is rot, and the laws of the world are nil; For the bad man is he who is caught and cannot pay his bill, And there is no place called hell; and heaven is only a truth, When a man has his way with a maid, in the fresh, keen hour of youth.

And money can buy us grace, if it rings on the plate of the church; And money can neatly erase each sign of a sinful "smirch." For I saw men everywhere, hotfooting the road of vice, And women and preachers smiled on them as long as they paid the price.

So I had my joy of life; I went the pace of the town; And then I took me a wife and started to settle down. I had gold enough and to spare for all of the simple joys That belong with a house and a home, and a brood of girls and boys.

I married a girl with health and virtue and spotless fame, I gave in exchange my wealth and a proud old family name. And I gave her the love of a heart grown sated and sick of sin. My deal with the devil was all cleaned up and the last bill handed in.

She was going to bring me a child, and when in labor she cried, With love and fear I was wild, but now I wish she had died. For the son she bore me was blind and crippled and weak and sore, And his mother was left a wreck. It was so she settled my score.

I said I must have my fling, and they knew the path I would go; Yet no one told me a thing of what I needed to know. Folks talk too much of a soul from heavenly joys debarred — And not enough of the babes unborn, by the sins of their fathers scarred.

Letters From Those Saved and Blessed Through "The Sword of the Lord" and Booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?"

A preacher friend from Placencia, California, writes:

"I have gotten *The Sword of the Lord* for years, and please know that it brings blessing and courage and strength to my heart and soul and mind."

A friend saved through radio message and booklet writes from Wisconsin:

"Inclosed is one dollar for a year's subscription to *The Sword of the Lord*, and you may send me the picture which you are offering at this time.

"This paper has been such a blessing that I look forward to every copy. It is so simple and plain, anyone can understand it, and it comes right to the point. I have had many questions answered and made clear by reading your good paper. May God continue to bless you in your good work of winning souls for Christ."

"I received your letter last week regarding my decision for Christ and asking if I were following Him. I have always been a member of the Lutheran Church. We live on a farm, so belong to a small country church. After hearing your wonderful sermons over WJJD at the noon-day services in Chicago, I can plainly see that most of us around here are church members, but not Christians. So I am glad to state that I have decided to trust Jesus and be a Christian and not just a church member. I was baptized when a child, but can see that one should be baptized after conversion, but I have no opportunity for that in a Lutheran and Catholic community."

"I read my Bible daily and pray many times a day. I have confessed Christ to friends and relatives and have been distributing tracts and some of your booklets on 'Hell.' It is hard to do anything with

church members, as they feel they are on the right way . . . I pray daily for help to win my loved ones . . .

"Yours in Christ,
Mrs. A. F. Sparta, Wisc."

Woman Saved Through Article On Movies

From McKeesport, Pennsylvania, Mr. Charles J. Summitt writes:

"Some time ago I gave your message in *The Sword of the Lord* about the movies to a friend of mine, and praise God, she has given up dancing movies, and has become, by grace through faith, a Christian. Praise the Lord! She also devotes all her time now to Christian work and says she has no more desire for the things or pleasures of this world."

Another Letter About Salvation Through The Sword of the Lord

"I buried my dearest sweetheart and husband the seventeenth of last March, but, Bro. Rice, he was saved by your little paper, and I know he is at rest. Oh, what a wonderful time there will be when we meet in the sweet by and by. Your sister in Christ Jesus, Mrs. V. B. Kiefer, Oklahoma."

A woman in Dallas, who is in poor health, writes the following, asking also the prayers of Christian friends:

"Dear Brother Rice and Sword readers:

"I have waited too long and neglected to tell you how I just feast on all the soul-satisfying sermons *The Sword* brings to my home and heart. 'Heaven' warmed my heart. I needed that sweet, comforting reminder to stir up my tired memory. 'The Sure Shepherd' and 'Let Us Alone' were regu-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

A Remade Life

[AS PREACHED IN DALLAS, TEXAS, JUST BEFORE HIS DEATH LAST APRIL FIRST]

BY P. B. CHENAULT

(With grateful acknowledgement to Mrs. P. B. Chenault. From book, "Last Call Messages," all by Bro. Chenault, published since his death.)

Jeremiah 18:2-4

The heart of the story is stated in this sentence, "And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it."

It was an hour of terrible discouragement for the prophet Jeremiah. Is it not a pitiful sight to see a strong man lose heart and hope? One thinks of David, the young lad, utterly silencing boastful Goliath, the mighty giant—and just a little later one hears David's pitiful cry, "I shall one day perish at the hand of Saul." One thinks of Elijah the prophet of God, single-handed and alone, routing hundreds of false prophets on Mt. Carmel, and the next day fleeing like a fox before the threats of wicked Queen Jezebel. One thinks of John the Baptist, standing before the purple-robed Herod and Herodias, improper consorts. With words that breathed and burned, the unfearing John looked into Herod's face and said, "It is not lawful for thee to have her." How great and courageous was John in that hour. But you remember how Herod put him into jail, in a dark dungeon, and John, the brave preacher of Judea, lost heart and hope, and in his discouragement sent two of his followers to ask Jesus, "Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another?"

In this parable of the potter, the prophet Jeremiah is all down in his faith, and why? Note the context and you will see. The lives of the people all around him were marred by mistakes and faults, failures and weaknesses, and sin; and because of it the prophet's heart is cut to threads. He sees the delinquencies, the failures, the moral breakdown of his people and his heart is poured out like water.

What preacher or pastor is there who has not had this same feeling? If there is one thing above all others that will cut the preacher's heart to the depths, it is the delinquencies and inconsistencies of his people.

In the hour of discouragement for the prophet, because of the sins of God's people, God sends him down to the potter's house, there to learn a lesson of the utmost importance.

What a strange place to hear the message of God! This fact teaches us that we may hear a message from God at any place

Dallas Announcements

Pastor John R. Rice will be at home for all services Sunday.

Radio services on WRR at 7:30 a.m.

Sunday School, 9:30, at Sunset and Tyler. All departments study Acts, chapter twenty-one, "The Sin of Paul in Refusing Holy Spirit Guidance."

10:45 a.m., sermon by the pastor. Bring unsaved friends. We expect a great attendance.

7:45 p.m. Open air evangelistic service at 201 East Tenth Street. Cool breezes, comfortable seats, concrete floor, fine singing, gospel preaching, many visitors. Expect a blessing and come praying.

under any circumstance, if our ears are but attuned to His voice.

What did the prophet see? He saw a potter making a vessel. He carefully watched the potter, and lo, as the vessel was about to be completed, it was marred in the hands of the potter. What did the potter do? Did he shovel up the broken pieces and send them to the scrapheap? No, he took the same clay, and, marred though it was, he put his hand upon it and moulded it again into another vessel, as seemed good to the potter.

Jeremiah has his plain lesson. O prophet of God, though men sin and mar God's plan, yet He is merciful, He is gracious. He is patient, and He is longsuffering toward them. You are not to despair, because the people about you are broken on the wheel; because their lives are marred. You must remember that God gives men a second chance. From that hour Jeremiah was on his feet as never before.

Is there a man or woman in this audience who is not conscious of having marred the vessel of life that God has given, of having misfused it tragically, of having turned away from many opportunities for growth and goodness? Who is not conscious of having come short again and again of what God expected in the doing of His will?

I read the touching testimony some time ago of a faithful servant of the Lord who had the privilege of dealing with a young man who had marred God's plan for his life.

This Christian asked a question of the wayward young man—"If you could see Christ face to face and talk with Him, what would you ask Him to do for you?" He answered, "Sir, I would ask Him to make me over again." And that is exactly what our blessed Saviour proposes to do. That is the work of divine grace. That is the glory of the Gospel we preach. It has the power to make us over again. There are some vital lessons in this parable for us today. Let us earnestly think on some of

the clearly suggested lessons of this parable.

The first lesson suggested is this, *God has a plan for every life*. Just as the potter had a plan for the vessel, so God has a plan for every life. Before the potter shaped his vessel, he had the plan for it in his mind. He worked by a plan. Before this building was erected, the complete plan for it was in the architect's hand. The carpenters worked by that plan. Before any of the noble bridges over which you and I travel were constructed, the plan was in the mind of the engineer. Think of it, God has a plan for every life, your little life and my little life, as really as He had a plan for Moses, for David, for Paul, Spurgeon, Carey, Judson, Livingston, Moody—a plan for every life.

The doctrine that needs profound emphasis today and every day is the doctrine of individual responsibility. This doctrine is being disregarded on every side. We must never get lost in the crowd. We must, everyone, give account of himself or herself to God.

Let me ask you this all-important question tonight: Have you found your life plan? Have you thoughtfully tried to find it? Have you earnestly prayed to find it? You need to pray the prayer of Paul on the road to Damascus, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" And when He has shown you, never let anything throw you off your track.

Now there is a second lesson for us in this parable. The lesson is that *God's plan for our lives may be marred by us*. God has clothed us with moral freedom. We can say "yes" or "no" to God. We can follow Him or refuse to follow Him. We can obey Him or choose to disobey Him.

Yes, we can mar God's plan for our lives. And this lesson is universal in its application. Whole nations can mar the plan of God. Indeed, they have done it. What about ancient Israel? Can you

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Hastings Revival Closes

The editor has just returned from revival services with Rev. Siemens, pastor, and the First Baptist Church, Hastings, Minnesota.

Thirteen happy and profitable days were spent there. Crowds grew continually, and interest. Nearly every day some claimed Christ as Saviour. A fine lot of intermediate young people found Christ, and perhaps fifteen juniors, as well as some older people.

Hastings is on the Mississippi River twenty-one miles below St. Paul. It has about 5,000 population, is sixty-five per cent Catholic. There are a good many taverns and liquor stores. The Catholic St. Boniface Society has chartered a big river steamer for July 5th for a river excursion with dancing day and night. Some of the difficulties the Baptist church and pastor face may be imagined, yet God is blessing. We believe that the church will now back up the pastor in soul winning more than heretofore. He begins this week a summer of tent meetings in nearby communities which, we hope, will lead many souls to Christ.

Some specially happy incidents in the revival linger in my heart.

One afternoon the pastor and I went thirteen miles out in the country to visit a nominally Catholic home. A woman in the home with her son and daughter had been saved in our services a day or two before, and we went to see the father and mother, the one past seventy, and the other near the same age, I suppose. How kindly they welcomed us to the home, and how glad to talk about salvation! The dear man did not remember ever to have heard of Moses and the brazen snake in the wilderness, and none of the family knew John 3:16. The granddaughter had begun to memorize it since she had been saved a day or two before. Yet all had heard that Christ died for sinners, and the old grandfather frankly admitted that he was a sinner and needed forgiveness. It was wonderfully sweet to tell the story that never grows old, to people who seemed never to have heard it in seventy years in America! Then it was sweeter still when the old man trusted Christ and claimed Him. His wife said she, too, would trust the Saviour, but did not seem so sure as he.

Saturday afternoon the pastor

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Hastings Revival

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and I went, by appointment, to see a man who lives on Gray Cloud Island, surrounded by the river and a slough. Several families live there on about 1,800 acres. With us went a man, formerly a Catholic, but won to Christ by Brother Siemens, a friend who had been trying long to bring this friend to church. At last he had gotten the lost man to agree that he would talk to the preachers, if they thought they could show him that the Bible was true. "Si," the friend with us told us of the man's hardness, and then how his baby, sixteen months old, had rolled into the slough and drowned. He had wondered, poor sinner, and troubled stranger from God, if his baby went to Hell. Catholics sometimes teach that babies not "baptized" (sprinkled) must go to Hell. In Lake Arthur, Louisiana, I found two Catholic graveyards, one for those sprinkled and the other for babies who died before being sprinkled. Perhaps that teaching led to this man's trouble.

When we arrived, the lost man greeted us gingerly, holding out only his little finger to shake hands, since his hands were greasy from his car. He stood by the car while we talked. His friend "Si," brought up the question of his baby who died, and I told him that surely his little one was safe in the arms of Jesus. He hid his face for a while and then said, "Well, some say He is a merciful God, and if He is it ought to be that way!"

Then I went into the scriptures, showing how Christ died for the sins of the whole world. I told him that "As in Adam all die, so in Christ shall all be made alive" (I Cor. 15:22), that all the sinful nature we inherit from our parents is atoned for in Christ. I showed that only those who come to know right from wrong and so become accountable sinners, knowing they are sinners, are then lost, unless they repent.

"Well, it sure seems you want to help me," he said. "And I'm damned if you've done me any harm!" he added. He did not take God's name in vain, and I suppose he didn't even know that he used the offensive word. All his animosity toward the Bible was gone.

I began then to show how one may suffer for another, how a father may suffer for a wayward son, pay him out of jail, how a mother cares for her baby without thought of pay, because of love. I reminded that we live in a free country because others fought and even died for a free land. How natural then, that God, who loves us so, should send His own Son to die for sinners! Love explains it all.

Suddenly he exclaimed, "Si! I may make it yet!" It was the best news his hard old heart had ever heard, and one could see how he had long ago decided that Heaven was not for such as he. But if Christ died to save him, and it was all free, then he had hope!

Well, it didn't take long then. A sinner has only to believe, to trust. I showed how one trusts a doctor, calling him and turning the case over to him. I mentioned

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THE SWORD OF THE LORD
and of John R. Rice

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JOHN R. RICE, EDITOR, Pastor of Fundamentalist Baptist Church

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that we trust a bank with money, and a girl trusts the man she marries, risking her life in his hands.

He was ready to pray then, bowed his head on the car, and promised to ask Christ to save him. After prayer, he solemnly claimed Christ. The change in his face, his attitude, was remarkable. He took us into his humble home to meet his wife and children. He asked his friend to come by Sunday night to take his family to church. He thanked me again and again, and now, grease or no grease, shook hands with us all. Sunday night the family was at services and a son and daughter asked prayer and then at the invitation, came to confess Christ. Praise the Lord. He knows what keys will open hard hearts. How wonderful it was to this man to learn that his baby was safe with Christ and more wonderful yet that he, too, could be saved and see the little one again! His infidelity was all gone before we had talked five minutes.

Another remarkable case occurred Sunday afternoon. A father attended the services who showed a keen interest in all I said as I preached on soul winning. He sat near the front, then came to meet me at the close of the service. He had been a Catholic till a year ago. Then he heard some Rutherfordites and got some literature, and started out working hard as one of "Jehovah's Witnesses." He seemed to feel he must work hard for salvation. When I asked him if he was born again, he said he was trying as hard as he could.

Good Brother Bill Murk, pastor of Temple Baptist Church, St. Paul, was in the service, so he took the man and showed him how far wrong were followers of Rutherford and "Pastor Russell" with no teaching of the new birth, no churches, no ordinances, no soul winning.

By this time the crowd was gone and I talked with him again. Soon his hungry heart trusted Christ and claimed Him as Saviour. When it was settled, he called his sons, and insisted that they, too, trust in Christ. One boy was fifteen, the other about twelve. They listened earnestly, the younger with tears, and both claimed Christ as we showed the way and as the father earnestly exhorted them. Then he said to me, "I was doing all I knew to do. I was working hard in order to be saved."

Praise God, he found that salvation is not in joining something nor in working at human goodness, but in trusting God's dear Son who died for sinners.

In such an atmosphere, where few know the gospel, where Catholics are in the majority and where Lutherans and Episcopalians and other groups are strong for ceremonial religion, there is great need for plain, tender, repeated Bible teaching and preaching. But thank God, the Word will bear fruit if preached faithfully in the power of the Spirit. In such communities, there may not be as big a mass movement after one sermon as elsewhere. People need more teaching. But it is wonderful the kind of Christians God sometimes makes out of such sinners. We thank God for the revival. I beg every reader to get busy about this main business of soul-winning.

At Hastings a letter came from Dean Lundquist of Moody Bible Institute, asking me to speak in chapel Monday morning, June 19. I gladly accepted the invitation, caught the 9:07 p.m. train Sunday night, arriving in Chicago at 6:30 Monday morning. My brother Bill met me, with Catherine, his wife, and the two girls who recently went from my office to Moody. Misses Fairy Shappard and Eula Lee. We had breakfast together, then went to the chapel service.

It was good to see Dr. Houghton again, and other Moody friends. He introduced me most kindly, gave me plenty of time, and we had a blessed service.

After a day with the young folks I left Chicago, at 6:45 p.m., and now, at 5:45 p.m., I am on the Texas-Pacific train passing through Gladewater, Texas. At 8:30 tonight I will arrive in Dallas to see my dear wife, six of the finest daughters a man ever had, my loyal workers who carry on the work in my absence, and my great, unselfish church, which prays for me as I go out to win souls.

FAINT - HEARTED

"Jacob's heart fainted because he believed them not" (Gen. 45:26). All discouragement is of the devil. Fight the good fight of faith is an apostolic injunction often ignored. Faith, let faith be aggressive, no truce with doubt. It is the men of faith who succeed as is illustrated in the eleventh chapter of Hebrews.

1. Use what faith you have. Most of people have more faith than they use. They believe certain things will be accomplished were they to do their part. But they are not obedient to the heavenly vision; they had faith enough but they decided not to put it into effect. There is a vast amount of unused material in the individual Christian. Faith is not at work, many a man is trying to have faith who if he used what he had would see great things accomplished.

2. The Apostle said, "your faith growth exceedingly." Faith grows as it is put into effect. Begin with a little and you will soon have more, it multiplies by use. Men of stronger faith did not always have so much, but they began with what they did have and it grew exceedingly. It was doubtless far more easy for Muller to trust God for thousands of pounds after his work was established than it was to believe for a few at the beginning. The longer we obey God, the better we know Him. And the more we know Him the more we trust Him. There are plenty of folks who have persistently neglected to use what faith they have until even that is being taken away. There is no other grace more susceptible of cultivation than that of faith. Start with what you have and keep on going forward and it will be greatly enlarged.

3. Have faith in God. Faith is nothing apart from an object. An old saint known as a woman mighty in faith was visited by a stranger who accosted her thus, "Are you the woman of great faith?" She replied, "I'm the woman who has a little faith in the great God." The all sufficiency of Jehovah far exceeded the bounds of her faith, "for he is able to do exceeding abundantly above all we can ask or think." As there is no limit to what God can do there should be no limit in our faith for the supply of every need. According to Phil. 4:19, every need possible to us amid the varied responsibilities of life is but a mere speck compared to God's measureless supply. If we thought more upon God and less upon our need we would find it easier to trust Him for the need. Too often people begin and end with themselves; it is like a man trying to lift himself up by his shoe straps. The Psalmist said, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help," and again, "My soul wait thou only upon God for my expectation is from Him." God was the object of his confidence. Spurgeon said he was riding along one day meditating on the scripture, "My grace is sufficient for thee," when he broke out into a laugh and said an ant had just as well look at the Pacific ocean and fear a water famine as for any Christian to view these shoreless promises and fear the lack of any needed supply.

4. Fight the good fight of faith, not only use what you have but be aggressive with it, assert it in the face of all odds.

Sometimes just to repeat in the face of the enemy's fierce accusation, I believe in God, will quiet and strengthen the heart. It is good to say, "What time I am afraid, I will trust in the Lord," but it is better to say, "I will trust and not be afraid." The Christian armour, as described in Ephesians 6:11-17 makes faith the shield of the Christian warrior. This weapon was to be held at the point of attack. Were the arrows coming from the front, then the shield was to be lifted there as a protection; the shield protected the exposed part, what a lesson for us. At this point many fail as did Jacob. It looked as if everything was against him but just at the time he exclaimed, "All these things are against me," everything was working in his favor. What a difference between walking by sight and walking by faith.

(From the book, "A Prayer Answering God," by A. Sims.)

Another Soul Saved Through "Unpardonable Sin" Booklet

Today (Wednesday) we received word of another soul saved. This time it was through the booklet, "The Unpardonable Sin." The decision slip, clipped from that booklet read:

Rev. John R. Rice
201 E. Tenth St.
Dallas, Texas.

"Dear Brother Rice:

"I confess before God that I am a sinner. I want forgiveness now, lest I should commit the unpardonable sin and so never be saved. I believe that Christ died for my sins. Therefore I trust Him here and now to forgive me and save me. Today I claim Him as my Saviour and Lord and write to let you know.

"Signed: C. O. L.—
Hastings, Minnesota."

Then Mr. L—— added: "I joined the Lutheran church, was baptized in the Lutheran church, am a member in the Lutheran church, Lincoln, Nebraska."

We praise the Lord for people saved through these messages. Help us get them to the unsaved. A copy will be sent free to any who will read it. Or if you have unsaved friends that you know will read the book, we will be glad to send it free.

3rd Edition of Movie Book Being Printed

Zondervan Publishing House of Grand Rapids, Michigan, writes me that all copies of the second printing of my book, *What Is Wrong With The Movies?* are exhausted, and that they are now printing the third edition. "Selling like hot cakes," Mr. Bernard J. Zondervan writes. The third edition will be ready by the time you read this, we think.

From far off Finland, in northern Europe, came a letter last week asking permission to quote from this book in publications printed in Swedish and Finnish languages. We gladly gave permission. From some of the best Bible teachers and preachers in America have come letters commanding the book. It has been recommended by *Sunday School Times*, *Moody Bible Institute Monthly*, *the Defender Magazine*, etc. If you read parts of the book in this paper, be sure to get the book and read the rest of it; at least half was not printed here.

What Is Wrong With The Movies? has ten chapters, 117 pages, and is being greatly used in opening the eyes of young people and others tempted by the attractions of the films. (With strong, two color cover, 35 cents postpaid, 6 for \$1.50, postpaid; Sword Book Room, 207 S. Beckley Street, Dallas, Texas). Get this for vacation reading.

Seven at One Time

At a recent church service I felt impressed to get Christians to reading soul winning literature. So I told about the remarkable book

Strange Experiences of The Doctor

By Walter Lewis Wilson, M.D., of Kansas City, Missouri

This book of 126 pages, cloth bound, printed in England so it could be sold for 50c a copy, has seventeen remarkable cases of how individuals were won to Christ.

But when I told about it I offered a copy of the book to anybody who wanted it for any price they would pay. Immediately someone wanted a copy for 50c and others asked for more and more. I only had seven copies present and they were soon gone and people asked for more. The book goes like hot cakes when people know what it is.

Order a copy today. If you do not think it a special blessing, a big bargain, then return this book unmarked in five days and get your money back. I personally guarantee it.

Remember, the book is sent postpaid for only 50c

THE SWORD BOOK ROOM

207 SOUTH BECKLEY

DALLAS, TEXAS

Last Call Messages

(A MEMORIAL)

By P. B. Chenault, late pastor of Walnut Street Baptist Church, Waterloo, Iowa

Here are four messages by dear Brother Chenault, delivered in the Fundamentalist Baptist Church at Dallas, Texas, just before the author met death on the highway, the victim of a drunken driver. The sermons were taken down as preached, and will be a great blessing. The subjects are:

1. SIN AND SILENCE
2. THE PROGRESS OF SIN
3. GOD'S REMEDY FOR SIN
4. A REMADE LIFE

Then the fifth chapter is on TODAY AND TOMORROW, written by Editor John R. Rice, concerning the homegoing of Brother Chenault and his last message on this subject.

There is a fine introduction by Dr. Wilbur M. Smith of Moody Bible Institute, there is a brief but sweet word of trust by Mrs. Chenault, giving witness that God has upheld her in this time of deep bereavement. Then there is a poem, "A Song There Is" written by Rev. William M. Runyan of Moody Bible Institute, specially for this book. (Brother Runyan is the author of many of the finest gospel songs, words and music).

These messages by Brother Chenault were wonderfully blessed to the hearts of those who heard them. They are direct, from the heart. Scriptural, appealing, tender yet plain. By all means get LAST CALL MESSAGES and read it. Young people will find it a special blessing. Dear Brother Chenault, being dead, yet speaks.

One of these messages is printed in this issue of *The Sword of the Lord*. Read it and get the entire book of messages. There is a decision slip for sinners who will trust the Lord.

There are seventy-two pages, a good stiff cover, a fine picture of Brother Chenault. Price, each, postpaid, only 25c

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207 SOUTH BECKLEY

DALLAS, TEXAS

Letters From Those Saved and Blessed

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

lar recruiting calls to any blood-bought soul. Every word in them brings or renews my heart's desire to be more worthy through true humility, to wear the name Christian. What a privilege, what a comfort to be a Child of God . . . Your sister in Christ Jesus, Mrs. R. L. A., Dallas, Texas.

A widow past eighty writes from Granbury, Texas:

"Dear Brother: You do not know how much joy and satisfaction I get out of reading your paper. I do not have words to express my thoughts. I am sending my last dollar and hoping to meet you and your family in a better world some day. Your true friend, Mrs. J. A. A."

A friend from Brownwood, Texas, writes:

" . . . I am enclosing one dollar for which please mark up my subscription for one year and if there is one picture left I should like to have it. Your paper is a blessing to our home. Your sermons could not be better. One of them, just any one, is well worth the price of your paper."

Mrs. A. S.

Two in Chicago Saved Through Reading "What Must I Do To Be Saved?"

About Monday of last week the following letter came from Chicago, Illinois, being copied from the decision slip in the booklet, "What Must I Do To Be Saved?"

"Dear Brother Rice: Realizing that I am a sinner, and believing that Christ died for my sins, I here and now trust Him to be my personal Saviour, depending on Him to forgive all my sins, change my heart, and give me everlasting life as He promised to do. I am glad to confess Him as my Saviour, and gladly mail this to let you know.

"Will you please mail me one of your tracts on 'What Must I Do To Be Saved?' A friend of mine gave me one to read."

Mrs. S. B.

On June seventeenth, the following letter came also from Chicago:

"Dear Brother Rice:

"Realizing that I am an undone sinner, and believing that Christ died for my sins, I here and now trust Him to be my personal Saviour, depending on Him to forgive all my sins, change my heart, and give me everlasting life as He promised to do. I am glad to confess Him as my Saviour, and gladly mail this to let you know. Please pray for me. Grace be with you."

G. M. L.

We praise the Lord for the word from these saved, and believe there are many more from whom we have not heard. Won't you help us to get the gospel out through these tracts and through this paper? Subscribe for unsaved friends and loved ones. Send it to Christians who need encouragement and help. Your reward may be great.

The Word of God

The Word of God is perfect and pure. It is above every age, for it was written by the Eternal Spirit, and our wisdom is to receive its teachings with childlike faith, and receive it according to its own method, not mixing it with the enticing words of Man's wisdom or the thoughts and terminology of the temporary schools.

The Word of God reveals Christ to us, and it searches out and judges everything in us that prevents us from walking by faith in Him. Solemn and stern as its voice may be in many places, the blessed result to those who are humbled and meek and that tremble at the Word is, that by it they are taught to look off steadfastly unto Jesus, who never did and never can fail, to find Him the way of life and so be kept from the evil that is in the world.

The Word of God speaks to the heart. The voice of the Lord is full of majesty, the heart hears it and is filled with awe. The voice of the Lord is full of tenderness, and the heart trusts and rejoices. The voice of the Lord declares mercy, and the heart forgives them that have trespassed against us. The voice of the Lord speaks of peace and coming glory, and the heart becomes cheerful and patient in trial, enjoys the feast of His grace and looks on with confidence to His coming again.

The Word of God is our weapon, none other is of any avail when we stand face to face with our great foe. It will meet every attack; it turns in every direction, "It is written," silences the devil, and puts him to flight. He can blow into splinters the words and opinions of men, but the Word of God he cannot destroy, it is the Sword of the Spirit. The Word fits into all circumstances; it is a buckler and shield as well as a sword, and moreover it heals all wounds received in deadly conflict, and it nerves the feeble arm to fight. It is the precise answer to every difficulty, the right method of meeting all opposition, and the one true solace that can get to the heart and strengthen and succor and solace it.

In the Word of God there is light and hope and in nothing else. This Word has outlived the men who have denied and tried to destroy it. This Word flings the light of hope through the tear of despair and turns the night of weeping into the morning of joy. This Word has sung its glad songs when all the world has been out of tune; this is the Word that you must hear, for "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." Hear the Word! It is calling to you in the rarest and clearest speech that was ever heard. Only out of the mouth of the eternal, all-seeing, almighty, merciful and gracious God could have come the words, "Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." They have been spoken, they are the very words of God, as sure as His eternal throne, infallible and faithful, and good for every heart today that will hear them and obey.

Bread is the "staff of life," and if a man has been supported by it for fifty years he cannot only smile at the foolish person who would condemn such sustenance, but he is fully warranted in pronouncing most favorably on its virtue. He has put it to ample and

When They Walked With Jesus

ANNA L. DREYER

(Two disciples, one of them Cleopas, walked from Jerusalem down to Emmaus, the day Jesus rose from the dead. They did not believe what the women had told them, that the tomb of Jesus was empty. But Jesus came and walked with them, explained the Scripture, and at last opened their blinded eyes to see that it was He. Read the story in Luke 24:13-35.)

In a far-off land, in a far-off time, Two with hearts grief-wrung walked to sorrow's chime, And they spoke of love done to death by crime, And the future viewed with dread;

abundant proof, and refuses to be shaken by its critics.

In like manner, if a believer on the Lord Jesus Christ has fed upon the Word of God for fifty years and has found the truths of the Bible to be food and drink and light and life, joy, instruction, comfort, guidance, and richest blessing to his soul, he may well be unmoved by what its enemies and hostile critics say about it; experience has taught him to repose in unbroken confidence in the unerring accuracy and truth of the Word of God. He has leaned upon it all the time; it has never failed him, nor deceived him by any false light; he has tried it and proved it. His best defense of that Word, if defense were needed, is simply the fact that he himself has proved it. — *Scripture Truth.*

When Another came, walked with them beside, And His speech with them touched their hearts long-tried; And they told how He, whom they loved, had died, And their hope with Him was dead.

They had trusted Him, and their rulers then To a cruel death brought this King of men; But the women said that He lived again,

And it seemed but mockery; Then the Man they thought but a stranger turned To their Holy Writ, and within they burned, As He taught how God o'er a lost world yearned That He gave His Son to die.

Then as night drew on, and they stopped to rest, To abide with them they the Stranger pressed; As He sat at meat and their bread He blessed,

He was to their eyes revealed! Oh, their Christ was He—let the glad truth ring! And He is not dead—their anointed King! He has pow'r on earth to deliverance bring! And their hearts with joy were filled.

From these men of old let us learn today That the risen Christ is alive for aye!

That He lives to bless in a special way

Those who truly serve Him here. He will come again, come to claim His own!

They shall live with Him! they shall share His throne!

In that land where pain never shall be known,

Where is wiped away each tear.

— From *Christian Life.*

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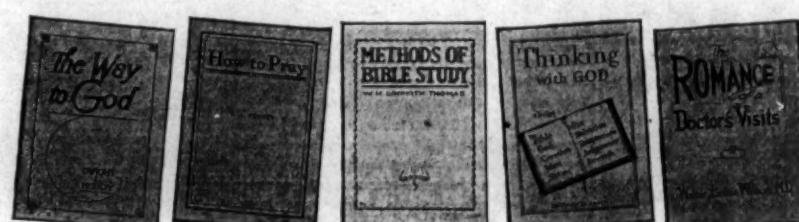
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A REMADE LIFE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

think of them except with a sob in your heart? "He came unto his own and his own received him not."

God has a definite plan for the nation of Israel, but, oh, how she has broken His plan. Coming to more modern times, consider Germany. Surely God had a plan for that mighty nation, but she, too, marred God's plan. Certainly you would say Russia has marred God's plan. And what about our own beloved land? God have mercy on America! Surely she is on the road to marring God's plan.

Not only can nations mar God's plan, but churches can mar God's plan for them. This church can mar God's plan. Any church can mar God's plan. I think there is nothing in all the Bible more solemn than the warning given those churches of Asia Minor, as recorded in the Book of Revelation. Once they shone with their glorious light, and that light went out over the darkness of sin and shame to pilot the people into the right way. And when those churches of Asia became self-centered, they let the appointed program of Christ go by default, and the candlestick was taken away from those churches. Let any church presume to defy Christ's plan and she is doomed. She may have had great seasons of grace, she may have had faithful witnesses in the past; men and women may have crowded her walls and there confessed Christ as Saviour, but let a church forget what a church is for and she is doomed. God's plan for the church is twofold, first to build up and instruct the Christians, and second, to evangelize; and when any church fails in either or both of these she is headed for defeat. There is only one safe way for a church, and that is to obey Christ.

A family can mar God's plan. There have been strong and famous families in our land, and now in their third generation some of them seem to be going to defeat. The first generation served God and built up a worthy business career. The second generation selfishly spent the property left them and forgot God and forgot their Bible, and the church of Christ. And where do we find the third generation — going from house to house for a handout. Yes, God has a plan for your family. Are you working out God's plan? The family life of America truly has marred God's plan.

Individuals can mar God's plan for their lives. You can mar it. Maybe you have already marred His plan for your life. David marred God's plan. God had marvelously blessed David and yet he marred God's plan. He sinned against God and his fellowmen. Samson marred God's plan. Solo-

mon marred God's plan, and so did Peter and John.

We can all mar God's plan for our lives. God knows I marred His plan for my life. May I tell you briefly how I lost for a time God's blue print for my life?

On January 22, 1904, I was born in a humble home in the country some forty miles from Richmond, Virginia, the seventh of eleven children. While we had few cultural advantages so far as the world counts culture yet my earliest recollections are of going faithfully Sunday after Sunday to the old "Upper King and Queen Church." It was never a question in our home of Mother or Dad saying, "It is time for you to go to Sunday School, children," but instead it was always my father, "Come on now children, let's get the chores done early; you know we are all going to church this morning." How I thank God for parents who taught us by example our duty towards God.

When I was a lad of nine God saw fit to take my mother, then a woman only forty years of age, home to be with Himself. There had been a terrible epidemic of measles which swept through our community, and Mother had contracted it, together with pneumonia, and her body was unable to withstand the ravages of both diseases. How well do I remember the day my Father and a few of the neighbors went out with the coffin to the place of burial. Our little faces were pressed against the window panes, for we were quarantined at the time and unable to attend the services. While they were laying her away to rest, God in His mercy came down and took our six-months-old sister home with Mother. Oh, those were dark days for us away back there in the country, far from the comforts of civilization, but God was faithful and enabled our Dad to keep his little flock together during those trying years.

A little later, when I was twelve years of age, I accepted Christ as my Saviour in what you would call revival services, we called them "protracted meetings." How often I have thanked God for Uncle Charlie who during those meetings one day laid his hand upon my shoulder and said, "Son, don't you think it is time you were giving your heart to Jesus?" That day I was born again. The years went by and I finished grammar school, but during those years I early felt that God had called me to preach the unsearchable riches of the Gospel of Christ. Many a time as I plowed the long rows of corn, old "Maude" became my audience as I preached what to my youthful mind were great sermons. It was there that I had my first experience in "practice preaching."

There came a day when I was ready for high school, and never will I forget coming to my father and telling him that God had called me to be a preacher. I can see him yet with the tears running down his cheeks as he said, "Son, the greatest desire of my life has been that I might have been a preacher, but I knew I had no talents for preaching and that God had intended me to be a farmer. Ever since our first son was born I have prayed that God would call at least one of my boys to be a minister of the Gospel. My son, I have a little money laid by, and if you feel that God has called you to preach, I will be glad to spend every cent I have so that you might get the proper education."

This offer of my father's touched me tremendously, for I remembered that none of the other children had had any education beyond grammar school and I felt it would not be fair to them for him to spend his hard-earned money on my education. And so, believing that if God had called me to preach He would supply my needs while I secured the necessary training, I left home and earned my way through four years of high school, and then, upon its completion, I entered the University of Richmond, with only \$15.00 in my pocket. God supplied every need through two years of study and would have continued to do so, I am sure, but just about that time I began to take my eyes off God's plan for my life. One of my brothers and a cousin were in Detroit making good money in those years just before the crash, and I

reasoned within myself that perhaps it would be well for me to go to Detroit and earn enough money to take me on through school without having to work so hard. This I did. From the first I was successful in business but along with success in business came a growing coldness in my heart toward the things of God, and more and more as I became associated with business companies the temptations of the world became stronger.

Well do I remember the first Monday morning that I smoked a cigar. Each Monday morning it was customary for the boss to pass the cigars to the salesmen, and here I was, the manager of a large sales force, refusing them week after week until this one morning I decided, well if the other men can do it so can I. From that time on it was easy to smoke. One step led to another until I found myself taking highballs and then learning to dance at the dances given by the company until one New Year's Eve, to my everlasting shame I say it, I was taken home in a drunken stupor. And all this time, mind you, while in my heart I was drifting farther from God, I was active in the work of the church. I was leader of the Young People's Society, and president of the entire city-wide B. Y. P. U. When my pastor had to be away he would ask me to fill the pulpit and I would lead candidates into the baptismal waters, but although outwardly I was busy doing the Lord's work, at heart I had marred God's plan for my life.

But, thank God, I don't have to leave you at this point in my message tonight. I hasten to the most glorious lesson pointed out to us in the parable of the potter. The marred life can be shaped again. That truth came down from heaven. Men sometimes talk boastfully of the survival of the fit. Jesus Christ came down to earth with His Gospel for the unfit.

Though we mar God's plan, He is longsuffering and merciful and says, "Do not despair, I will give you another chance." The vessel that He made was marred, so He made it again. Here is the glorious gospel of Christ — here is the way of glorious hope and light and love.

He gave Moses another chance, Samson, David, Peter, and John Mark. And blessed be His name, He gives you and me another chance.

Oh, I am so glad He gave me a second chance. From the midst of this material prosperity and spiritual dearth in my life I awoke one morning to find that the president of our company had absconded, leaving hundreds of thousands of dollars of unpaid debts, and our business was in ruins. All that I had made during my four years in Detroit was wiped out over night. Then although another real estate dealer offered to buy my sales force and make me vice-president of a new company, which was carried out, God was working in my heart, and a morning came when I pushed back my chair and said, "I am going to my pastor and make this thing right in my life."

How vividly I see in my mind's eye the pastor's office that morning as I sat and poured out my heart to him, telling him what a hypocrite I had been and how I had missed God's best for my life. And then my pastor turned to I John 1:9: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive

us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Together we knelt and I confessed my sin to God and He cleansed me and made of me a new vessel. Oh, I would not exchange the joys of these past ten years of walking in the will of God for all the wealth or fame or honor that this old world can bestow.

From there God led me to the Moody Bible Institute where I spent three blessed years in the study of His Word, and immediately upon graduation He led me out into full-time service for Him, preaching the Gospel. He has given me the joy of seeing hundreds of souls come to a saving knowledge of Christ as their Saviour through the preaching of the Word.

He has given me a dear Christian wife, who has stood by my side so faithfully in these years of ministering, and He has blessed our home with two little girls whom we are seeking to train as He would have us. And above all He has given me the deep joy of being in the center of His will, and the vessel which had been broken and marred by sin, He has made over into a new vessel fit for His use.

Dear Christian friend, have you missed God's best for your life? Although you are saved and were once walking in constant fellowship with the Lord, have you let sin come in and rob you of peace, and joy, and fellowship with Christ? If you have wandered, won't you, too, as I did, come to the Lord, and, whatever it is that you have let come between you and Him, confess it, let Him cleanse it and take it out of your life that you, too, may be a vessel which He can use in the salvation of others.

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